

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SOFIA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 300571

E.O. 11652: GDS

AGS: SHUM, CGEN, PFOR, BU (MAREVA, RUMYANA AND YORDANKA)

SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILY CASE: RUMYANA AND YORDANKA MAREVA)

REF: SOFIA 2584

1. DEPARTMENT SHARES EMBASSY'S UNHAPPINESS WITH REPORTED GOB DECISION TO REFUSE EXIT PERMITS AND PASSPORTS TO MAREVA CHILDREN. WE CONCUR IN EMBASSY'S PLAN (PARA 3 REFTEL) TO SEEK OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF GOB'S REFUSAL AND IF CONFIRMED, TO THEN PROCEED IN MANNER SIMILAR TO THAT USED IN REGARD TO COLLINS CASE.

2. FOR EMBASSY'S CLARIFICATION IN LIGHT OF STATEMENT BY "INFORMAL CHANNEL" THAT BULGARIAN EMOASSY WASHINGTON RECEIVED NOTE ON MAREVA CASE SIMILAR TO EMBASSY SOFIA'S, DEPARTMENT HAS MADE NO RPT NO WRITTEN APPROACH TO BULGARIAN EMBASSY RE THIS CASE. HOWEVER, WE UNDERSTAND THAT SENATOR STEVENSON, WHO IS INTERESTED IN CASE, WROTE TO AMBASSADOR POPOV ON BEHALF OF MAREVA CHILDREN. THUS, STEVENSON'S LETTER COULD BE SOURCE OF THIS REPORT.

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3. MAREV'S VIGIL BEFORE DEPARTMENT IS IN ITS 118TH DAY AS

OF DECEMBER 9. DEPARTMENT WILL NOT INFORM MAREV UNTIL
OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION OF REPORT IS RECEIVED.

4. DEPARTMENT REQUESTS EMBASSY'S COMMENTS OR SUGGESTIONS
REGARDING WAYS IN WHICH DEPARTMENT CAN SUPPORT EMBASSY'S
EFFORT. ALSO, SENATORS JACKSON, CRANSTON, EAGLETON,
STEVENSON AND REPORTEDLY PERCY HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST IN
THIS CASE AND WE BELIEVE THE PRESSURE FROM THEM FOR A
RESOLUTION OF THIS CASE WILL CERTAINLY INCREASE.

5. WE ALSO NOTE CONTINUED POSSIBILITY THAT CHILDREN'S
OWN WISHES IN THIS MATTER MAY BECOME AN ISSUE. IN VIEW
OF THIS, REQUEST EMBASSY'S COMMENT ON POSSIBILITY OR USE-
FULNESS OF OBTAINING BULGARIAN VISA FOR ONE OF CHILDREN'S
PARENTS TO VISIT BULGARIA AND MEET WITH THE CHILDREN OR,
ALTERNATIVELY, OF ARRANGING MEETING WITH CHILDREN FOR
EMBASSY OFFICER (AS WE OFFERED IN KHRISTOV CASE).

ROBINSON

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